

## **ORIGINAL COMPLAINT**

TO THE HONORABLE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE:

COMES NOW Julia Shoemake, hereinafter referred to as Plaintiff complaining against GC Services, LP hereinafter referred to as Defendant and for cause of action would respectfully show unto the Court as follows:

## **NATURE OF THE ACTION AND JURISDICTION**

1. This is an action for damages brought by an individual consumer for Defendant's violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692, et seq. (hereinafter "FDCPA"), which prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair practices. Plaintiff seeks to recover monetary damages for Defendant's violation of the FDCPA, and to have an Order or injunction issued by this Court preventing Defendant from continuing its behavior in violation of the FDCPA. Jurisdiction of this Court arises under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) and venue is proper before this Court as Plaintiff and/or Defendant reside

in this District and/or the complained of actions occurred in this District. Service may be made upon Defendant in any other district in which it may be found pursuant to 29 U.S.C. §1132(e)(2).

- 2. Plaintiff, Julia Shoemake, is a natural person residing in Dallas County.
- 3. Defendant, GC Services, is a domestic corporation engaged in the business of collecting debts by use of the mails and telephone, and Defendant regularly attempts to collect debts alleged to be due another. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

## **FIRST COUNT**

- 4. At various and multiple times prior to the filing of the instant complaint, including within the one hundred and fifty days preceding the filing of this Complaint, Defendant contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect an alleged outstanding debt. Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA in multiple ways, including but not limited to:
  - 1. Failing to cease communications after being directed to do so by Plaintiff via certified cease and desist letter (§1692(c)(C);
  - 2. Communicating with persons other than Plaintiff for purposes other than location, going so far as to tell Plaintiff's neighbors and communicating specific information about the debt owed (§1692b(1 &3));

- Yelling and being otherwise verbally abusive in connection with the collection of this alleged debt, including calling Plaintiff "white trash" and stating "we would love to take your house" (§1692(d)).
- 5. As a result of the above violations of the FDCPA, Plaintiff suffered and continues to suffer personal humiliation, embarrassment, mental anguish and emotional distress, and Defendant is liable to Plaintiff's actual damages, statutory damages, and costs and attorney's fees.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff requests that Defendant be cited to appear and answer herein and upon final hearing hereof, Plaintiff has judgment of and against Defendant as follows:

- a declaratory judgment be entered that Defendant's conduct violated the (a) FDCPA:
- an award of actual damages; (b)
- (c) an award of statutory damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k:
- (d) an award of costs and reasonable attorney's fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k; and,
- such other and further relief as may be just and proper. (e)

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Landgraf

Texas State Bar # 00784702 Attorney in Charge for Plaintiff

WEISBERG & MEYERS, L.L.C. 4201 West Parmer Lane Suite A-250 Austin, TX 78727 Phone: (512) 436-0036 ext. 116

Facsimile: (866) 565-1327

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SJS 44 (Rev. 11/04)		OVER SHEET		
The IS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filling and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided in local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1971, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM)				
(b) County of Residence	Southake RECE  of First Listed Plaintiff  EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES	County of Residence	Services, of First Listed Defendant	
(c) Allomoy's (Firm Hume, Address, and Telephone Number) SIJCH COST CITY Altorneys (IF Known)  Altorneys (IF Known)  Altorneys (IF Known)				
11 U.S. Government	<b>L</b>	(For Diversity Cases Only)	'RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)
Plaintiff	3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)	ļ P	TF DEF 3   0   Incorporated or P of Business In Th	rincipal Place 0 4 0 4
Defendant	(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item 111)		D 2 D 2 Incorporated unit of Business In	Principal Place (3 5 (3 5 Another State
737		Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	J 3 G 3 Foreign Nation	06 06
IV. NATURE OF SU	(Place an "X" in One Box Only) TORTS	BODEFITTION OF NATION		
110 Insurance 11 20 Marine 11 130 McCounty of Overpayment 130 McCounty of Overpayment A Enforcement of Judgmen 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excl. Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Observations Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Observations Defaulted REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Forcelosure 230 Rem Lesse & Ejectment 240 Tort to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	PERSONAL INJURY  310 Airplane Product Liability  320 Assnalt, Libel & Slander  330 Federal Employers' Liability  330 Assnalt, Libel & Slander  330 Federal Employers' Liability  340 Marine  345 Marine Product Liability  355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability  355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability  361 Other Personal Injury  CIVIL RIGHTS  441 Voting  442 Employment  443 Housing/ Accommodations  444 Welfare  445 Amer. w/Disabilities Employment  446 Amer. w/Disabilities Other  340 Other Civil Rights	620 Other Food & Drug 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 281 630 Liquor Laws 640 R.R. & Truck 650 Airline Regs. 660 Occupational Safety/Health 690 Other 1.ABOR 710 Fair Labor Standards Act 720 Labor/Mgma. Relations 730 Lnbor/Mgma. Reporting & Disclosure Act 740 Railway Labor Act 790 Other Labor Litigation 791 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act	BANKRUPTCY  422 Appeal 28 USC 158  423 Windrawal 28 USC 157  PROPERTY RIGHTS  \$20 Copyrights  \$40 Trademark  SOCIAL SECURITY  \$61 HIA (1395ff)  \$62 Black Larg (923)  \$63 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))  \$65 RSI (405(g))  FEDERAL TAX SUITS  \$70 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)  \$71 IRS —Third Party 26 USC 7609	OTHER STATUTES  400 State Reapportionment 410 Antirust 410 Antirust 430 Commerce 450 Commerce 450 Commerce 450 Commerce 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations 480 Coatsumer Credit 490 Cable/Sat TV 810 Selective Service 850 Securities/Contanodities/ Exchange 1875 Customer Challenge 12 USC 3410 890 Other Statusory Actions 991 Agricultural Acts 991 Agricultural Acts 1891 Enonymic Stabilization Act 1893 Environmental Matters 894 Energy Allocation Act 1895 Encodom of Information Act 1900Appeal of Fee Determination Under Equal Access to Justice 1900 Constitutionality of State Statutes
V. ORIGIN    Original   Proceeding   Removed from   3   Remanded from   4   Reinstated or   5   Transferred from another district   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1   1				
RECEIPT 4 AMOUNT APPLYING IFP JUDGE MAG, JUDGE				